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EXAMINER	
FOX, JAMAL A	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2664	

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/046,334	FOSTER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jamal A. Fox	2664	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *26 October 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-44* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5,8-15,18-30 and 33-42* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *6,7,16,17,31,32,43 and 44* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *09 May 2002* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2/19/2004*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is not within the range of 50 to 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-5, 8-15 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Strecker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,777,595).

Referring to claim 1, Strecker et al. discloses a method in a computer system for establishing a path between a source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) and a destination node (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25), the method comprising:

identifying ports of switches forming a path between the source node and the destination node, each switch of the path having a source-side port (source port, col. 9 lines 30-51) and a destination-side port (destination port, col. 9 lines 30-51, col. 10 lines 24-30, and col. 13 lines 25-30);

identifying a virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) for sending data from the source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) to the destination node (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25) such that the virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) is not currently used by any of the source-side ports (source port, col. 9 lines 30-51); and

setting each of the source-side ports (source port, col. 9 lines 30-51) to switch data sent to the identified virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) through the destination-side port (destination port, col. 9 lines 30-51, col. 10 lines 24-30, and col. 13 lines 25-30) of its switch.

Referring to claim 2, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 1 including:

identifying a virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) for sending data from the destination node (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25) to the source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) such that the virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) is not currently used by any of the

destination-side ports (destination port, col. 9 lines 30-51, col. 10 lines 24-30, and col. 13 lines 25-30); and

setting each of the destination-side ports (destination port, col. 9 lines 30-51, col. 10 lines 24-30, and col. 13 lines 25-30) to switch data sent to the identified virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) through the source-side port (source port, col. 9 lines 30-51) of its switch.

Referring to claim 3, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 1 wherein each port of each switch has a virtual address table (Virtual Circuit Descriptor Table, col. 14 lines 45-57) for mapping (mapping, col. 8 lines 15-22) addresses to another port of the switch.

Referring to claim 4, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 1 wherein when data is received at a port of a switch, the virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) of the data is used to retrieve an indication of another port and the data is sent out of the switch through the other port.

Referring to claim 5, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 1 wherein a path is established between the source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) and each of a plurality of destination nodes (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25) by identifying ports of switches for each path.

Referring to claim 8, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the switches are interconnect (interconnected, col. 1 lines 45-50; interconnection, col. 1 line 65-col. 2 line 2 and col. 15 lines 14-37) fabric modules.

Referring to claim 9, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 1 wherein when a port of a switch receives data with a virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) that has not been set for the port, the port does not forward the data.

Referring to claim 10, Strecker et al. discloses a method for establishing a path between a source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) and a destination node (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25) through a network of routing devices, the method comprising:

identifying ports (port, col. 13 lines 25-30) of routing devices forming a path between the source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) and the destination node (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25), each routing device of the path having an identified source-side port (source port, col. 9 lines 30-51) and an identified destination-side port (destination port, col. 9 lines 30-51, col. 10 lines 24-30, and col. 13 lines 25-30);

identifying a virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) for sending data from the source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) to the destination node (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25); and

setting each of the identified source-side ports (source port, col. 9 lines 30-51) to route data sent to the identified virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) through the identified destination-side port (destination port, col. 9 lines 30-51, col. 10 lines 24-30, and col. 13 lines 25-30) of its routing device.

Referring to claim 11, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 including:

identifying a virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) for sending data from the destination node (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25) to the source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25); and setting each of the identified destination-side ports (destination port, col. 9 lines 30-51, col. 10 lines 24-30, and col. 13 lines 25-30) to route data sent to the identified virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35, and col. 15 lines 30-45) through the identified source-side port (source port, col. 9 lines 30-51) of its routing device.

Referring to claim 12, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 wherein the routing device is a switch (see Figures 1 and 3 and respective portions of the spec.).

Referring to claim 13, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 wherein each routing device has a virtual address table (Virtual Circuit Descriptor Table, col. 14 lines 45-57) for mapping (mapping, col. 8 lines 15-22) virtual addresses (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) to another port of the routing device.

Referring to claim 14, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 wherein when data is received at a port of a routing device, the virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) of the data is used to retrieve an indication of another port and is sent out of the routing device through the other port.

Referring to claim 15, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 wherein a path is established between the source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) and each of a plurality of destination nodes (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25) by identifying ports of routing devices for each path.

Referring to claim 18, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 wherein the routing devices are interconnect (interconnected, col. 1 lines 45-50; interconnection, col. 1 line 65-col. 2 line 2 and col. 15 lines 14-37) fabric modules.

Referring to claim 19, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 wherein when a routing device receives data with a virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) that has not been set for the routing device, the routing device does not forward the data.

Referring to claim 20, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 wherein the identified virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) is not currently used by any of the identified source-side ports (source port, col. 9 lines 30-51).

Referring to claim 21, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 wherein the identified virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) is currently used by an identified source-side port when part of the path is shared by two source nodes (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) sending data to the same destination node (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25).

Referring to claim 22, Strecker et al. discloses the method of claim 10 including providing the identified virtual address (virtual address, col. 14 lines 30-35 and col. 15 lines 30-45) to the source node (source node, col. 7 lines 20-25) for use in sending data to the destination node (destination node, col. 7 lines 20-25).

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 23-30 and 33-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hallenstål et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,914,911).

Referring to claim 23, Hallenstål et al. discloses a network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) for establishing a path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) between a source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) and a destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) through a network of switches (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.), comprising:

a component that identifies switches (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) forming a path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) between the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) and the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30);

a component that identifies a virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) for sending data from the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col.

11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) to the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) through the identified switches (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.); and

a component that configures each of the identified switches (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) to route data sent to the identified virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) through the identified switches (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) from the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) to the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30).

Referring to claim 24, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 23 including:

a component that identifies a virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) for sending data from the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) to the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30); and

a component that configures each of the identified switches to route data sent to the identified virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) through the identified switches from the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col.

7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) to the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30).

Referring to claim 25, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 23 including: a component that identifies switches (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) forming a path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) between the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) and the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30).

Referring to claim 26, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 25 wherein the path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) from the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) to the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) includes one port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) that is not in the path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) from the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) to the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30).

Referring to claim 27, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 25 wherein the path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) from the source node to the destination node is different from the path from the destination node to the source node (see Fig. 3H and Fig. 3I and respective portions of the spec.).

Referring to claim 28, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 23 wherein each switch has ports (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) with a mapping (mapping, col. 35 lines 18-42) of virtual addresses (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) to another port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of the switch.

Referring to claim 29, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 23 wherein when data is received at a port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of a switch (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.), the identified virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) is used to retrieve an indication of another port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of the switch (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) through which data is transmitted.

Referring to claim 30, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and

network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 23 wherein a path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) is established between the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) and each of a plurality of destination (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57; col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) nodes by identifying ports (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of switches (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) for each path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55).

Referring to claim 33, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 23 wherein the switches (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) are interconnect fabric modules (Fig. 2, Switching Fabric, col. 18 lines 45-50, col. 20 lines 10-15 and col. 20 lines 50-65; switch fabric, col. 13 lines 15-20, and respective portions of the spec.).

Referring to claim 34, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 23 wherein when a port of a switch (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) receives data with a virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) that has not been set for the port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55), the port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) does not forward the data.

Referring to claim 35, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 23 wherein each switch (switch, Fig.

3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) has a source-side port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) and the identified virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) is not currently used by any of the source-side ports (port, col. 1 lines 50-55).

Referring to claim 36, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 23 wherein each switch (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) has a source-side port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) and the identified virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) is currently used by a source-side port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) when part is shared by two source nodes (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) sending data to the same destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30).

Referring to claim 37, Hallenstål et al. discloses a network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) for establishing a path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) between a source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) and a destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) through a network of routing devices, comprising:

means for identifying ports (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of routing devices forming a path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) between the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57,

col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) and the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30), each routing device of the path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) having an identified source-side port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) and an identified destination-side port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55);

means for identifying a virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) for sending data from the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) to the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30); and

setting each of the identified source-side ports (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) to route data sent to the identified virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) through the identified destination-side port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of the routing device.

Referring to claim 38, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 37 including:

means for identifying a virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) for sending data from the destination node (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) to the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30); and

means for setting each of the identified destination-side ports (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) to route data sent to the identified virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) through the identified source-side port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of the routing device (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.).

Referring to claim 39, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 37 wherein a routing device is a switch (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.).

Referring to claim 40, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 37 wherein each port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of each routing device (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) has a means for mapping (mapping, col. 35 lines 18-42) virtual addresses (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) to another port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of the routing device (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.).

Referring to claim 41, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 37 including means for, when data is received at a port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of a routing device (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.), retrieving an indication of another port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) using the identified virtual address (VPI, VCI, col. 1 lines 40-48) and

sending the data out of the routing device (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) through the other port (port, col. 1 lines 50-55).

Referring to claim 42, Hallenstål et al. discloses the network manager (ATM Management System, Fig. 20A ref. sign 2010 and respective portions of the spec. and network management, col. 33 lines 20-25) of claim 37 including means for establishing a path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55) between the source node (originating, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 11 lines 50-55 and col. 13 lines 25-30) and each of a plurality of destination nodes (destination, col. 1 lines 50-57, col. 2 lines 5-10, col. 7 lines 51-65, col. 11 lines 50-55, col. 12 lines 35-40 and col. 13 lines 25-30) by identifying ports (port, col. 1 lines 50-55) of routing devices (switch, Fig. 3, 3A, 3B, 3I, 6, 8 and respective portions of the spec.) for each path (path, col. 1 lines 50-55).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 6, 7, 16, 17, 31, 32, 43 and 44 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

8. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, (for formal communications intended for entry)

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamal A. Fox whose telephone number is (571) 272-3143. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on (571) 272-3134. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to 2600 Customer Service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Jamal A. Fox

Jamal A. Fox

WELLINGTON CHIN
RVISORY PATENT EXAMIN